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Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations

Record

Volume LVII, No. 05, May 2024

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

- 1. Election for MVCCA Executive Committee** at the May GC meeting. This is your organization please come and make your vote count!
2. Thank you from National Park Service - see letter on page 7.
3. Cathy Hosek, our Education Chair, was awarded the Mount Vernon Community Champion Award by Volunteer Fairfax.
4. An email from NPS Superintendent Cuvelier regarding E-bikes and E-scooters is included in this Record on page 8

MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	Katherine Ward	co.chair1@mvcca.org
	Lynn Pascoe	co.chair2@mvcca.org
	open	co.chair3@mvcca.org
Secretary	Tamera Srader	secretary@mvcca.org
Treasurer	Bill Kane	treasurer@mvcca.org
Membership	open	membership@mvcca.org
Editor	Karen Keefer	editor@mvcca.org
BUDG	open	chair.bf@mvcca.org
EDUC	Cathy Hosek	chair.edu@mvcca.org
E&R	Larry Zaragoza	chair.er@mvcca.org
PL/Z	Bindu Mathur	chair.pz@mvcca.org
PS	open	chair.ps@mvcca.org
TRAN	Jason Zaragoza	chair.tran@mvcca.org
SFDC	Ellen Young	rep.sfdc@mvcca.org
FCFCA	Marty Lowery	rep.fairfaxfederation@mvcca.org
Stormwater	Leo Milanowski	specialcommittee@mvcca.org

MVCCA General Council Meeting Minutes

MVCCA GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

04/24/2024 (Virtual Meeting/ZOOM)

PRESIDING: Co-Chair Lynn Pascoe

ATTENDING

- Co-Chair - Katherine Ward
- Co-Chair - Lynn Pascoe
- Secretary - Tamara Srader
- Treasurer - William Kane

Committees

- Environment and Recreation - Larry Zaragoza
- Planning and Zoning - Bindu Mathur
- Transportation - Jason Zaragoza
- Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation - Ellen Young
- Storm Water Management Special Committee - Leo Milanowski

Communities Attending

Huntington
Wellington Civic Assoc
Belle View
Holland Court Property
Gum Springs Homeowners Organization
HHV
BHTCA
Hollin Hills
Montebello
Mount Vee Manor
Villamay
Mt Vernon Civic
Potomac Valley
Bell Haven Citizens Assoc
Williamsburg Manor North
Wellington Civic Association

Community Members – Lindsay Brzica

----- Council Minutes ----- Council Minutes -----

Elected and Appointed Officials and Staff: Supervisor Dan Storck, Mount Vernon District; Nick Rinehart, Mount Vernon County Staff

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM

March 2024 minutes - Minutes approved unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT: The Treasurers report, as published in the March Record, was unanimously accepted. Has a new budget for next fiscal year and looks about the same as this year. FY 24-25 budget will be presented at 22 May GC meeting.

EDU - Judy reported for Kathy - did not meet this month and are waiting to see what the Commonwealth will do for additional funding for schools; sensing more of a positive attitude about potentially re-boundarying and will see how that works out.

ER - Focus of the meeting was climate resilience guidance that the state is issuing; discussion about Fairfax County issuing guidance about climate resilience and updating Chesapeake Bay ordinance; two resolutions - one for Fairfax County and one for Virginia; discussion about invasives in Collingwood Park and GW Parkway. Please see other details in the record.

PZ - Property attorney for IMP building attended meeting. Planning to build garden style apartments; developer is asking MVCCA if we can help them to suggest to the county to move SPCCA to from tier 3 to tier 1; second speaker spoke to group about the existing zoning ordinance about type of vehicles stored on sites; C8 District - most of Route 1 is C8; make special exception process to increase outdoor storage and light vs heavy equipment; not going to allow people to store equipment on their front lawns

Co-chair - Reminder for environmental expo was given. The Friends of Dyke Marsh asked the MVCCA to cosign a letter to the National Park Service asking them to install freeze free water fountains along the bike path from National Airport to MV Estate. A request for a vote was made and the measure was unanimously approved.

TRANS - Short meeting about resolution that will be presenting to MVCCA; FYI that Richmond HWY 495 to Hybla Valley; Fort Hunt Road from Richmond Hwy to Belle View and a section of Old Mt Vernon Rd;

Stormwater - Did not meet - waiting for policy to come out and the Grant program to be announced.

Nominating Committee - have some recommendations to the General Council for open positions and will be in the May Record.

SFDC - Reindeer Sculpture done by Fabian Lagos who lives here in Mt Zephyr; looking for other grants to add art to Richmond Hwy Corridor to make it more of an art corridor; working with Michael Alfano (<https://www.michaelalfano.com/>). Best Way on Richmond Hwy has closed, and the owner is looking to either lease or sell.

Resolutions -

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION (MVCCA) RESOLUTION REGARDING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC BICYCLES (E-BICYCLES) ON THE MOUNT VERNON TRAIL (MVT) (TRAN-2024-01)

Resolution passed unanimously.

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA) Resolution "Comment for Fairfax County on Update to the Chesapeake Bay Ordinance" (E&R-2024-02)

Resolution passed unanimously.

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA) Resolution "Comment on the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Bay Act Resiliency Guidance" (E&R-2024-03)

Resolution passed unanimously.

Supervisor Storck comments -

Please see the Newsletter from Supervisor Storck; 6th annual Environmental Expo at Fort Hunt Park; Thanked Judy and Larry who came and spoke at the Budget meetings; Wants to reduce real estate tax rate for homeowners as commercial taxes has not produced a greater revenue for our area; other fees are being increased such as planning and development and fire marshal fees; Medium High rating from the Federal Government for the Bus Rapid Transit line down Richmond Hwy which was what was hoped for; discussion about postcards sent to those how have RPA and questions/ confusion about what it meant; questions about community center for the developer for the Parker property 2550 Huntington and the proffer that was done;

Adjourn: 8:23 PM

Respectfully submitted by Tamara Srader

----- Committee Reports ----- Committee Reports -----

Budget & Finance

We are looking for a chair for this committee. If you are interested, please contact a co-chair.

Education

Education committee did not meet and most likely will not meet in June.

Environment & Recreation

The meeting was held by Zoom on May 1, 2024 at 7:02. The meeting was convened by Chair Zaragoza, CoChair. Mount Vernon Park Commissioner Linwood Gorham was our guest.

Meeting participants included: Wellington Civic Association, Hollin Hall Village Citizens, Association, Spring Bank Community Association, Huntington Community Association, And Belle Haven Condominium Unit Owners Association.

The committee considered a resolution on Collingwood Park and decided that we should collect more information before adopting the resolution. Mount Vernon Park Commissioner made it clear that the issue of invasive plants that we are seeing in Collingwood are also seen in other parks and that funding is a major constraint.

The committee also discussed a memorandum that was signed by the County Executive on funding needs for flooding. While the committee recognizes the need for this funding, we agreed that we wanted to hear from the Stormwater Committee before taking a position.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ellen Young and seconded by Dorothy Keough. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Planning & Zoning

Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Monthly Meeting 5/6/2024

Committee Attendees:

P&Z Committee Chair
Belle Haven Terrace Civic Association
Holland Court Property Owners Association

Belle View Condominium
Montebello Condominiums
Belle Haven Civic Association
Stratford Landing CA
Riverwood HOA
New Gum Springs Civic Association
Gum Springs Homeowners Organization
Huntington CA
CA of Hollin Hills
Hollin Hall Village CA

Other Attendees:

MVCCA Co-chair
E&R Committee Chair
Ford Family Chronicler
Walsh Colucci
Mount Vernon on the Move
Other concerned citizens

Proceedings:

Linda Hollis, the Ford Family Chronicler for the West Ford Legacy Foundation, provided a presentation about the West Ford Legacy Foundation and the proposed mural that the Foundation wants to paint on one of the water tanks on Fordson Road. The West Ford family inherited land from Washington's estate that later became Gums Spring. The foundation was established 30 years ago to bring Ford decedents together, preserve the Ford legacy, and conduct genealogy research. The foundation also promotes and funds related outreach such as the mural project.

The Foundation and community members will meet with Mount Vernon Supervisor on May 24th to discuss the project. They plan to develop a project plan and solicit sample mural designs. They will also identify project costs and prepare a funding plan. After the presentation, Ms. Hollis address any concerns and questions pertaining to project. Several questions we answered about restrictions and how the mural design would be approved. Fairfax Water required certain types of paint and has ultimate approval authority regarding the proposed mural. The Foundation and Gum Springs community stakeholders will decide on the mural design to present to Fairfax Water. Several other members of the community made statements regarding the process, but because of time limitations, were asked to present their statements in writing and/or at the next Council meeting.

Larry Zaragoza presented a Joint Resolution with P&Z, Transportation, and E&R Committee. The resolution was for a Proposed Ordinance Change Process that would make ordinance changes public and available for public review and comment before they are adopted. The resolution passed unanimously.

----- **Committee Reports** ----- **Committee Reports** -----

David Walker, Vice-President of the Belle Haven Civic Association (BHCA), presented his association’s concerns about the County’s plan for a sewer upgrade related to the Alexandria Crossing project, made necessary by the increase in residential density. A wooded buffer between Route 1 and the Belle Haven community had previously been deeded to the County to retain the buffer as green space. County now wants to encroach into the buffer to upgrade the sewer. The Association estimates that the County proposal will result in deforestation of 3.8 acers (20% of green space) and significantly reduce the buffer. BHCA wants the County to consider other alternatives for placement and have an arborist make recommendations to the County on how to better preserve the green space.

Updates on open projects:

2550/2560 Huntington Ave – A letter was sent from the P&Z committee to Supervisor Storck reminding him that MVCCA believes the second floor should remain residential. Supervisor Storck still wants 2nd floor retail or community center, which is inconsistent with they recommendations of the impacted communities and the P&Z committee.

IMP Building – Since our previous meeting, the Supervisor met with land use attorney and developer. The Supervisor questioned if residential is appropriate for the site and did not commit to raising the project priority in the County Comprehensive Plan.

Lukens Lane – The Lukens Lane development was held up by the County because the plan did not preserve enough trees. The developer resubmitted new plan for 11 homes single family homes and three out lots for tree preservation. This is one less home than the previous submission.

Fire Station – No new news.

Public Safety

Meeting minutes not available.

Transportation

The Transportation Committee met on May 13 , after the publication of this Record. Those minutes will be published in the June record. The next meeting will take place on June 10 at 7pm via Zoom.

Future (2024) Scheduled Transportation Committee Meetings *(2nd Monday of the Month):*

- Jul 08
- Aug – No scheduled meeting
- Sep 09
- Oct 7
- Nov 11
- Dec 09

Note: Until further notice, all meetings will be held remotely.

Special Committee on Stormwater Management

Meeting minutes not available.

Fairfax Federation

Meeting minutes not available.

SFDC

No written report.

**MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
(MVCCA)
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
MAY 10, 2024**

In accordance with the MVCCA Bylaws, the Board of Directors established a Nominating Committee at its March 2024 meeting. The Committee was tasked to compile a list of candidates for the Board Officers' election to be held at MVCCA's May 2024 Annual Meeting. The open positions are two(2) Co-chairs.

Please note a recent change to the Bylaws staggered the terms of office for the Co-chairs. While each of the Co-chairs will still serve a three (3) term, each will be offset by one year. As a result, individual Co-chairs elected during this cycle, will serve either a two, or three year term.

As the Bylaws require, the Nominating Committee consisted of five persons drawn from members in good standing of MVCCA member associations. The members of the committee and their respective Associations are:

Marty Sanchez-Lowery, Mount Zephyr Citizens Association
Queen Cox, Gum Springs Homeowners Association
Peter Aliferis, Montebello Condo Unit Owners Association
Mike Rioux, Mason Hill Citizen's Association
Leo Milanowski, Hollin Hall Village Citizens Association

None of the Committee members serve as a current Officer of MVCCA. The Nominating Committee's meetings were held by remote meetings and emails.

To establish a slate of candidates, the Committee contacted current officers and each of MVCCA's standing committees chairpersons. In addition, the Committee contacted all MVCCA member associations and asked them to assist in discovering suitable candidates. As a result of those inquiries and discussions, the Nominating Committee presents the following nominees for the upcoming election:

Co-chair (two year term) - *no nomination*

Co-chair (three year term) - Christopher Morgan, Stratford Landing Civic Association

The Committee will continue to pursue candidates up to the time the elections is held. Nominations can be made from the floor at the Annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted by the Nomination Committee on May 10, 2024.

----- **From the Co-Chairs** -----



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998

<http://www.mvcca.org>

Supervisor Storck
Mount Vernon District Supervisor
2511 Parkers Lane Alexandria, VA 22306
Re: 2550 Huntington Avenue—Second Floor Uses

April 12, 2024

Dear Supervisor Storck,

We understand that there have been discussions regarding a community center on the second floor of the apartment building proposed for 2550 Huntington Ave. As you know, the MVCCA and the SSPA Task Force members have argued repeatedly in public hearings that the second floor of this building should remain residential. The comprehensive plan for this building says, “second floor retail if feasible”. It is our position and was the position of the SSPA Task Force that it is not feasible nor appropriate for retail or community service activities to be on the second floor of 2550 Huntington Ave. Continued argument by the County Staff that the second floor should include commercial (or now a community center) has only had the effect of delaying development of this property, an all too familiar scenario in our part of the county. Frankly, this kind of stalling has put the brakes on too many projects along the Richmond Highway Corridor, instead of promoting development as foreseen in the Comprehensive Plan.

The Huntington community already has a community center which is located 5751 Liberty Dr, Alexandria, VA 22303 which appears to be under-utilized. Furthermore, there are multiple vacant buildings and office spaces along Richmond Highway near Huntington, as well as a large recreation center currently being constructed on Beacon Hill Rd very close to Huntington Community, that could very easily serve as a community center.

We, therefore, ask that you push back against the county staff’s advocacy for second floor retail or a community center at 2550 Huntington Ave. We need to get our development projects going again (like the booming construction next door in Alexandria and Arlington) rather than stopping them with unreasonable demands.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Lynn Pascoe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B".

B. Lynn Pascoe, Cochair MVCCA

----- From the Co-Chairs -----

----- MVCCA Draft Budget FY 2024-25 -----

MVCCA Budget FY 2024-2025				
Cash Receipts				
Dues - Current Members		\$3,955		
Money Market		2		Admin Estimate
Total Receipts		\$3,957		PO Box 200
Cash Disbursements				
Administration		\$540		Zoom Pro License 180
Insurance		\$707		SCC Fee 25
Outreach/Town Hall		\$0		Postage 35
Record Production		\$1,400		Search add-on 100
Web Site		\$800		
Total Expenses		\$3,447		540
Net Budget		\$510		
The rates enacted in July 2022 are reflected in the Receipts above.				
Association Cate	Rate	# in Category		
Less than 30	\$50	3	\$150	
31-100	\$60	5	\$300	
101-200	\$80	14	\$1,120	
201-300	\$90	6	\$540	
301-400	\$105	3	\$315	
401-550	\$120	3	\$360	
551-700	\$150	1	\$150	
701-900	\$165	3	\$495	
More than 900	\$175	3	\$525	
		41	\$3,955	

Thank You from the National Park Service

Subject: Thank you

On behalf of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, I'd like to express our sincere thanks for your support of this water refill station initiative. The grant application was submitted last Thursday, and we hope that funding will be secured. This will not only reduce single-use plastic bottles but also provide year-round access to safe, healthy water for Mount Vernon Trail users.

We'll be sure to keep you updated on the results as soon as we have news. Thank you again for your leadership within your respective organizations and your commitment to making the Mount Vernon Trail a more plastic-free space. We look forward to collaborating with you on future projects and opportunities.

Jonathan P. Molineaux

Partnership Coordinator

Office Phone: 703-289-2534

Cell Phone: 202-438-6614

Email: jonathan_molineaux@nps.gov

700 George Washington Memorial Parkway

McLean, Virginia 22101

<http://www.nps.gov/gwmp>



----- NPS Letter regarding E-Bikes and E-Scooters -----

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] This Lime scooter
Date: 2024-05-14 11:49
From: "Cuvelier, Charles J" <Charles_Cuvelier@nps.gov>
To: Mvcca <co.chair1@mvcca.org>, "Molineaux, Jonathan P" <jonathan_molineaux@nps.gov>
Cc: MVCCA Transportation Chair <chair.tran@mvcca.org>

Hello Katherine and others,

This message is to clarify the use of E-Scooters and E-Bikes along the George Washington Memorial Parkway, which includes the Mount Vernon Trail. Our primary focus is preserving and managing the parkway's natural, historical, and recreational resources. This includes maintaining the Mount Vernon Trail for safe and enjoyable use by pedestrians and bicyclists, while protecting the area's natural beauty.

While we understand the concern about abandoned e-scooters and e-bikes, collecting and impounding them creates a substantial workload that diverts staff from other priorities. The Superintendent's Compendium does not allow their use on trails; however, it is incumbent upon the vendors to restrict their use. Furthermore, the licensing and permitting of these devices are handled by local municipalities like the City of Alexandria, District of Columbia, and Arlington County.

You can volunteer to assist by reporting abandoned e-scooters and e-bikes. Please contact the company and/or relevant local authority to ensure better compliance. We've included a list of common companies operating in the area with links to their reporting procedures:

*

Bird:

<https://help.bird.co/hc/en-us/articles/360043691912-Report-a-vehicle-that-needs-to-be-picked-up>

*

Lime:

<https://help.li.me/hc/en-us/articles/115004916388-How-do-I-report-illegal-parking>

*

Spin:

<https://help.spin.pm/hc/en-us/articles/360042179771-How-Do-I-Request-Scooter-Removal-Relocation>

*

Capital Bikeshare:

*

Arlington County:

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/Police-Department/Report-an-Abandoned-Bicycle>

*

Other areas:

<https://help.capitalbikeshare.com/hc/en-us/articles/360039402531-I-found-an-abandoned-bike>

We share your vision for a clean and safe trail. Partners and trail users can report abandoned e-scooters and e-bikes. To ensure the most effective response, please report directly to the companies operating the devices (see list above) and engage with your local jurisdiction who permit them. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Charles Cuvelier

Superintendent

George Washington Memorial Parkway

(o) 703-289-2511

(c) 202-809-5519

Charles_Cuvelier@nps.gov

----- Treasurers Report -----

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc. Treasurer's Report, Current Month and Fiscal Year to Date Compared to Annual Budget Periods Ending April 30, 2024

	April	Total July 1 to April 30	2023-2024 Annual Budget	Budget Variance To spend or Favorable (Unfavorable)
<u>Cash Receipts (including deposits in-transit):</u>				
Dues - Current Members	\$ -	\$ 3,965	\$ 4,250	
Money Market Interest	0	1	2	
Total Cash Receipts	0	3,966	4,252	\$ (286)
<u>Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):</u>				
Administrative	-	398	545	147
Insurance Premium	-	792	760	(32)
Outreach/Town Hall Meets	-	-	-	-
"Record" Production	150	890	1,400	510
Web Site	-	210	1,000	790
Total Cash Disbursements	150	2,290	3,705	1,415
Net Budget - Receipts in Excess(less than) Disbursements:	(150)	1,675	547	\$ 1,128

Other Sources/Changes in Cash:

Cash at Beginning of Period	10,450	8,625	8,625
Total Cash at End of Period	\$ 10,300	\$ 10,300	\$ 9,172

End of Period Cash Balances by Account (adjusted for outstanding items):

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 4,138
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	6,162
Total Cash	\$ 10,300

Respectfully Submitted,
William J Kane, Treasurer
May 1, 2024

Notes:

- 1 This financial statement uses the cash basis of accounting.
- 2 Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual

AGENDA

- Call to order
- Minutes Approved
- Committee Reports
- Treasurer Report
- Co-chairs Report
- Resolutions
- Supervisor's Time
- Members Time
- Adjourn

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Council—May 22 7:00 p.m., Virtual
MVCCA Board—June 11, 7:00 p.m. Virtual

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	TBD	7:00	Virtual	open
EDU	TBD	7:00	Virtual	Hosek
E&R	6/5	7:00	Virtual	L. Zaragoza
PL/Z	6/3	7:00	Virtual	Mathur
PS	TBD	7:00	Virtual	open
TRAN	6/10	7:00	Virtual	J. Zaragoza
MSCS	TBD	7:00	Virtual	Milanowski

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